



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1642
Examiner : Canella, Karen A.
Serial No. : 09/503,089
Filed : February 11, 2000
Inventors : Amanda J. Patel
 Eric Honore
 Florian LeSage
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Title : A METHOD FOR THE
 IDENTIFICATION OF
 ANESTHETICS



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 1201-CIP-3-00

Confirmation No.: 6089

Dated: September 23, 2002

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Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 23, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made to the Claims

13. (Twice Amended) A method for identifying substances having anesthetic properties, wherein said substances produce a reversible state of unconsciousness with concurrent amnesia and analgesia in a mammal upon inhalation comprising:
 - (a) contacting said substance with a TREK-1 or TASK mammalian potassium transport protein, wherein said potassium transport TREK-1 or TASK protein exhibits outward-going potassium rectification; and
 - (b) determining the potassium transport activity of said potassium transport TREK-1 or TASK protein, wherein an activation of potassium transport is indicative of said substance having anesthetic properties.
19. (Twice Amended) A method for identifying substances having anesthetic properties, wherein said substances produce a reversible state of unconsciousness with concurrent amnesia and

14/Bn
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